

JUNE 1992

Point three

PRICE 30p



In this issue:

Point Three for the Blind • Why Toc H ?


Bangladesh • Planning for the Future • Toc H 2000

Breaking Down Barriers - Prostitution

The magazine of



Point three

the magazine of  **TOC H**

Toc H is a movement of people who seek to build friendships, and offer service, across the barriers that usually divide us from one another. The basic unit is a group - at best a good cross-section of the local neighbourhood - which meets together regularly, and seeks to serve the community around it. Toc H was founded in 1915 by the Revd P B 'Tubby' Clayton, and since then has been providing opportunities for people to test the Christian way by practical experiment.

All members pledge themselves to try:

1. To welcome all in friendship and lessen by habit of thought, word and deed the prejudices which separate people.
2. To give personal service.
3. To find their own convictions while listening with respect to the views of others.
4. To acknowledge the spiritual nature of man and to test the Christian way by trying it.

This magazine is a forum for ideas about Toc H and about the world as well as a record of Toc H service. Its title derives from the third of these Four Points.

Toc H - A Contagious Disease?

One way of looking at Toc H is as a potential carrier of disease. A strong statement to make about a Movement committed to meeting together, to relationships, personal service and the discovery of a faith, you might say, but closer examination might lead you to conclude that it's not far short of the truth. Take the word *disease*. The dictionary defines *disease* as a lack of comfort, literally a lack of ease. *Contagious* means being communicated by touch, by personal contact. So there is justification for calling Toc H a potential carrier, if we think about *dis-ease* as a lack of complacency about social injustices, about our neighbour's poor quality of life or his aimlessness. As people committed to seeking the way of Jesus and interpreting the messages contained in his life and teaching, it must always be incumbent upon us to put such issues 'into the frame' and ask, 'What can I do, what can I do to show this man or this woman or this group that I want to share my fellowship with them? In what way can I touch them?'

The challenge for Toc H is its continuing willingness to face, head on, the inequalities in society. In the work we do in Branches, CAMEOS, Projects or Friendship Circles there must be the challenge to the complacent, the provocative prod in the ribs of the self-satisfied and the repeated and uncomfortable invitation to 'come and see, come and try it with us' to the fence-sitters.

A sense of individual, personal commitment is the genius of Toc H (and here is another dictionary definition - genius as a powerful influence or inspiration, not a person of exalted intellectual powers). While other organisations do immeasurable good works in the community, too many are motivated by the desire to 'do good' to others. There are very, very few who base their reason for existence on the idea of personal service leading to a discovery of a faith to live by. The development of immunology is one of the landmarks in man's enlightenment and right-thinking people welcome the eradication of many diseases world wide, but because the Toc H dis-ease doesn't maim or remove from individuals the potential for a full life, we must be on our guard against a form

of immunisation which renders us complacent, willing to 'leave it to somebody else'.

Last year I was involved with other Toc H friends and colleagues in Campaign '91. Throughout the year events were organised to take the challenge to leadership out into the regions, culminating in two weekends when members got together to state their commitment to undertaking something new.

My experience of Toc H doesn't reach far enough back to remember the birthday festivals of years ago, but I've heard about them and I experienced the excitement and the 'buzz' of the 75th birthday celebrations when we celebrated, among other places, in the Guildhall and at St Martin-in-the-Fields, but for me the spectacular 'set piece' events, wonderful as they were, did not produce the emotion and real sense of pride and renewal that the weekend at Cuddesdon did. Surely, this was because at Cuddesdon, at the end of Campaign '91, individual people were standing up and making a personal re-affirmation of their belief in Toc H's future by committing themselves to tasks which for many were daunting, new, frightening and a real step forward in faith.

I will never forget the elderly member from mid-Eastern Region who, by her simple dedication to taking on the completely new challenge of setting up a project with deaf children and declaring openly 'I don't know whether I can do it, but I'll have a go', moved me literally to tears.

Toc H is about personal service. It's about you and me saying 'yes' to uncomfortable challenges, to taking on the disease even when we are unsure of ourselves and have no clear notion of how we might tackle it. It's about being in touch with people, even those who seem 'different' or whom we don't like and might prefer to ignore, and seeing the Kingdom of God in them. While the people who make up Toc H - and that's you and me - remain faithful to this challenge, Toc H will continue to pass on its particular form of dis-ease. There is nothing big enough to stop it.

Jackie Bartlett

Staff Development Officer

Editor: Ruth Boyd

Editorial Assistant: Thomas Hill Long

Cover: Bike to the Future - Bristol CAMEO Group and Project Support Group recently cycled from Bristol to Bath on a sponsored ride to raise funds for Toc H. Adina Boardman, a new Toc H member, said, 'People have been fantastic. Hundreds have sponsored us. It's a great way to raise funds'.

Photo: David Harrison



Point three is printed on recycled paper

Letters, articles and news items are welcomed and should be addressed to The Editor, *Point three*, Toc H Headquarters, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 6RT. Tel: 0296 623911. Fax: 0296 696137.

Opinions expressed (including the editorial) are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Toc H movement.

Point three is available from Toc H Headquarters. Price: 30p per copy or £3.60 per year's subscription. Any contribution towards the high cost of postage will be gratefully accepted.

BRANCH NEWS

We would like to receive more news from branches about their work in the community, such as individual projects.

POINT THREE FOR THE BLIND

In 1979 a member of the Lions Club was invited to Wellingborough Branch to speak to us about a new 'aid' for the blind and partially sighted. The scheme started in 1965 at Aberystwyth, and in 1979 the Lions Clubs in England and Wales were making the Talking Newspaper for the Blind their annual charity and were raising money to equip a recording studio in each of their local areas, including Wellingborough.

The speaker explained that anyone who could not see to read a newspaper would regularly receive a tape of local news that had appeared in local newspapers but had not been broadcast on television or radio. He asked for volunteers to help with the running of the project. Six men offered their services: two to read the news, the others as general assistants for booking the tapes in and out, cleaning, rewinding, copying, testing and posting the cassettes. The first editions were sent out to 33 listeners every four weeks.

Wally, our Pilot, used to report their progress at our meetings. In February 1981 he mentioned a problem they were having with an electrical lead. Looking straight at me, he asked if anyone knew of an expert who could rectify the trouble. I had just retired from my job as Electrician/TV Engineer, so I volunteered to call at the studio. On checking the equipment I found that everything was being used from one 13 amp socket. I spent the next few days re-wiring a ring main with six sockets.

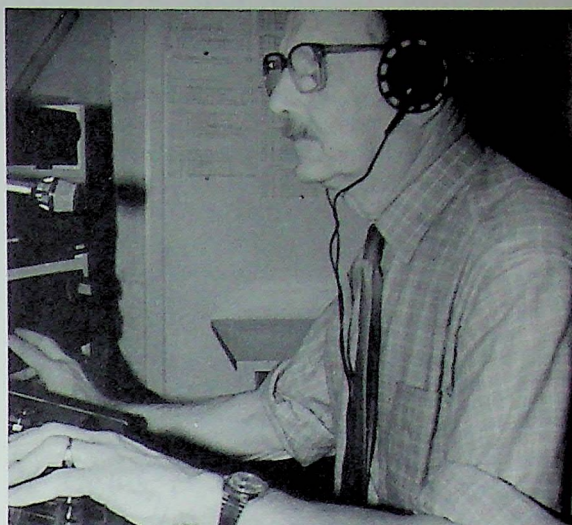
By now the number of tapes had increased: 45 listeners were receiving tapes every two weeks. I was hooked after seeing and hearing what was being produced for the benefit of the visually handicapped.

From that day on I've spent many hours every week, repairing cassette players, checking amplifiers, cleaning high-speed copiers and anything else that came to hand. The number of listeners has increased to 230, and they now receive TWO tapes every week.

When Toc H first became involved in 1979, there were 142 Talking Newspapers around the British Isles; now, in 1992, there are over 500.

These local units have banded together under the auspices of the Talking Newspapers Association of United Kingdom, and at its headquarters they record and despatch to subscribers copies of daily and Sunday newspapers, monthly and quarterly magazines and *TV Times* and *Radio Times*.

During the autumn of 1990, I thought about recording the Toc H magazine *Point three*. I asked the branch and district team for their opinion and the Area and HQ at Wendover for their comments. My letter appeared in *Point three*, December 1990.



The response was immediate - three people locally, and three others from Cardiff, Kendal in Cumbria and Fareham, Hampshire. That first issue I read myself, cover to cover. Now I have a team of seven Toc H members who I call upon to read for me when *Point three* is issued. To date there are only 18 listeners on my mailing list but from their notes and letters we know that they enjoy the tapes.

We wonder whether there are more Toc H members around the country who would like to have the recorded tapes of *Point three*? Look around your District and if you find anyone who is unable to read a normal printed newspaper and they have a cassette player, send us their name, address with post code, and include a subscription of £3.00 for a year. We shall send a tape of the latest copy of *Point three* by return.

Out of this last 12 years of activity has come some good. Not only are Toc H members joining with others to provide the visually handicapped with news and information. We also enjoy each others' company every week. A cross section consists of Church of England, Methodist, United Reformists, Catholic and Salvation Army members. We Toc H members add another dimension to the gathering.

The message is plain, that Toc H and Talking Newspapers can work together for their own and everyone else's benefit. If you hear that your local Talking News needs any help, offer your time and expertise and you will be well rewarded.

Harry C Bailey,
27 Harrowden Road,
Wellingborough,
Northants NN8 SBG

P.S. Since this article was written a newsletter has been circulated to all branches and five more listeners added to the mailing list. Point three on Tape is spreading! ■

The Induction and Licensing of the Revd Neil Alexander Llewellyn as Chaplain of St George's Memorial Church, Ypres, and Talbot House, Poperinge.

Two hundred people filled St George's Church, Ypres, and then squeezed into Talbot House, Poperinge, on Sunday 5 April. Both were special events marking a new era in the lives of both places as the Revd Neil Llewellyn was inducted and licensed as Chaplain to St George's and Talbot House.

Bishop Edward Holland presided over the service in St George's where Neil was given 'the cure of souls which is both yours and mine' by the Bishop. Our own National Chaplain, Revd Alan Johnson, gave Neil a lighted Toc H Lamp as a symbol of his ministry at Talbot House.



In his address, Alan said that this service marked the beginning of new relationships between all the parties involved. 'We all hope for and look forward to the time when these new relationships have become old and trusted friendships. The future contains uncertainties and will contain difficulties. Already there have been difficulties', he said. 'The Bishop and I, St George's and Toc H, and Neil with all of us, have had to wrestle with problems and anxieties. We have signed contracts, and exchanged written guarantees,



specified details. Good and right that we should do so. But the ministry that lies ahead for all of us will be as nothing if it remains cold words on cold paper. If the ministry of God is to be exercised in Ieper, at Talbot House, to all the visitors and people of these places and elsewhere, it must be a ministry of the heart and exercised according to the pattern of Jesus himself.

'So love one another as Jesus loved and served those around him. Speak to people by name, listen to their inner needs, touch their hearts with understanding and forgiveness, and bring healing to the soul. And all this regardless of the cost to yourself. Bring to fulfilment the promise of God through Jeremiah: "I will set my law within them and write it on their hearts; I will become their God and they shall become my people. No longer need they teach one another to know the Lord; all of them, high and low alike, shall know me, says the Lord".'



The reception at Talbot House was a wonderful Toc H event with a great mixture of people, including well known faces from Poperinge, the Consul General and a Chelsea Pensioner - George - who had been a member of Toc H in Newcastle in 1926. Bishop Edward, writing after the event, said, 'The reception at Talbot House after the service was really



excellent and one of the best Church "bun fights" I think I have ever been to'. No doubt the wine contributed to that, along with the canapes and bread surprises (Belgian-style sandwiches).



Neil is well and truly installed as our new Chaplain in Ieper and Poperinge. We wish him, his wife Linda and daughter Joanna, every blessing in their new life and ministry. ■

BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS - PROSTITUTION

Interest in prostitution recently increased because of the decision by the Mothers' Union, supported by senior clergy, to canvass its members on the question of legalising prostitution. Norah Anderson and I organised two events, held at Webb House and at Colsterdale, intended to challenge the attitudes of Toc H members on issues related to this contentious subject.

participants. Both Middlesbrough and Leeds (Chapelton) rank high in the prostitution 'league tables' - prostitution in the former is second only to central London. We also learned that prostitution is not, in itself, unlawful, but the methods of promoting or providing such 'services' may be - street soliciting and brothels, for example, *are* illegal.



Both events were CAMEOS - that is, we invited people with knowledge or particular views on the subject to share them with others who attended out of general interest (and who freely expressed their own opinions). Two circumstances had inspired us to organise the events: first, the close proximity of Webb House to Middlesbrough's 'red light' district, with all the consequences of this; and second, because prostitution was identified as a major concern by various agencies in the district at a consultation day held in Cleveland last year. The discussions took place at a single day early in March at Webb House, followed by a weekend at Colsterdale after Easter.

Both events followed a similar format, though obviously there was more time during the weekend event for a deeper exploration of the issues. We attempted to cover the legal perspective on prostitution (with the participation of the Cleveland and West Yorkshire Police), health and welfare aspects (with the help of North Tees Health Authority's HIV/AIDS Coordinator), the personal views of prostitutes, as well as the opinions of other participants in the CAMEOS.

Regrettably we did not succeed in getting a prostitute to attend either event. Even Miss Whiplash of the Corrective Party declined to attend. We therefore had to make do with a video presentation of the views and attitudes of actual prostitutes, which provided adequate material for discussion.

About 30 people took part in the two events and their response was very positive in acknowledging that they had learned something and had their own attitudes challenged. On both occasions, the Police Vice Squads proved to be interesting to, and provoked much questioning by, the

As part of the examination of the moral issues, we considered where Toc H should stand in relation to prostitution. We thought there were practical things that could be done, such as offering help to increase the individual's choices, providing crèche facilities for the children of prostitutes or a 'safe haven' of compassion and protection from physical abuse. At the very least, Toc H seems to have a role helping to educate people about the issues involved and promoting a more positive image of prostitutes, acknowledging their human rights and generally being open, fairminded and non-judgmental.

On the question of liberalising the laws on prostitution, there was overwhelming support for a review of current legislation (now well over 30 years old), with the object of allowing controlled brothels, while still outlawing street offences, in a general bid to clean up the world's oldest profession. Views on the matter varied, however. Here is a final reflection, which was presented by Sue Waines:

I don't condemn them [prostitutes], but I don't condone because as a practising Christian I now have a stronger love for my fellow man. I don't see judgment changing things, but my faith has brought me to feel the need to pray that this situation can be changed, so that those in prostitution no longer need to be in a moral dilemma. Love will overcome the cause, and sex is a unity of two people in love; self-satisfaction is a one-person selfishness. I pray also that this dilemma will not be so indented into the minds of those they love.

John Dunwell

TOC H 2000

I have read with interest the recent articles and letters on the future of Toc H and agree strongly with many of the points raised.

We still, however, seem to be overlooking an important point, which is that the strength of Toc H is in the branches and the branches consist mostly of people in the 45-plus age group and that this age group does not, in the main, wish to change the world, but rather make their bit of it a better place.

I am not decrying the strong core of very dedicated young people who are active in Toc H and without whom the Movement would be much the poorer, but we do tend to put great emphasis on recruiting young people, instead of encouraging older people, who appear to be most strongly attracted, to join existing branches. If branches can offer interesting jobs, enthusiastic helpers always seem to be forthcoming. Some people are reluctant to take up membership but are willing to be involved in various branch activities. This should be encouraged, as not only does it give a great deal of satisfaction to these people, but also allows the branch to widen the scope of its activities. Branches should target some community need, 'set up their stall' and advertise for helpers. It is from these helpers that future members will come. Newcomers to Toc H do not want to sit in at meetings, feeling complete outsiders, but if they start out working alongside members for a common aim, the friendship and fellowship they find will undoubtedly attract them to find out more about us and, hopefully, eventually become members.

I would like to see Toc H as the centre of a community, and the branch working to become involved in all aspects, so that we become known as the people to approach when things need to be done. We should strive to become the liaison between all groups in a community. Churches, Senior Citizens Clubs, social groups, to form an interlocking structure. Once this has been achieved, social outings could be arranged involving everyone - visits to theatres, country walks, coach trips, etc., thus ensuring a continuity of interests. New members can be attracted by becoming involved in these social activities.

Paving the Way

On Saturday 4 April, in a blaze of publicity, South Staffs and Wulfrun District began work on their Nature Trails for the Disabled. A week prior to the opening ceremony two weekly papers published articles about our plans. Two radio broadcasts followed and on Sunday morning came the big one: Central TV spent three hours filming and interviewing us.

Our project has fired the imagination of the local public and we are being inundated with offers of help. The Heritage Centre on Cannock Chase has offered us premises on their site. Within hours of our saying, 'Yes please', they had a work party in cleaning and redecorating. We shall have the premises for the five-year duration of the project at a nominal rent. A 64-year-old widow has asked if she could join some of the work parties, and a man living on a state pension has pushed £5 into my hand. This is a small sample of the response we are getting.

Of the many hurdles we face, a major one is finance. We



It is surprising how many separate men's and ladies' groups still insist on maintaining their status. This must result in loss of membership, as the present trend is for husbands and wives to prefer to work together. The days have gone when a Toc H meeting was a night out without the 'other half', and most branches which have gone joint have prospered, while others which stick rigidly to the old system appear to be floundering.

I know there are small branches that think their members are becoming too old and the branch should close down: we must not let this happen. Everyone has something to offer. Three or four dedicated members gathering together at regular intervals keep alive the spirit of Toc H and carry it into the community. Who knows, their branch might one day become the centre of new growth in the area, which could never happen if it had ceased to exist.

In Tubby's day, the overcoming of loneliness was one of his main objectives, and the problem still exists today, with unemployment, redundancies and, eventually, old age creating this situation. Toc H branches should see this as a challenge and make every effort to combat it in any way possible. Let us see this as our 'Way Forward'.

**Doris Wright, Secretary, Leeds District,
Bramley Branch**

have faith that this will come in eventually. Ruth Boyd has provided us with superb publicity material and Ian Pearce has pulled out all stops in helping our fundraising campaign. Meanwhile we must struggle on with the little cash we have. The important thing is that we have a platform on which we can publicise the wider aspects of Toc H. The second of our radio broadcasts was live and I was given the opportunity of talking about Toc H in general for ten minutes.

Now that the pot is boiling, we will keep the heat on. Every fundraising event will be preceded by a press release. We have a permanent but regularly changing publicity display on all aspects of Toc H in the Cannock Chase Visitor Centre, which is used by more than 16,000 people each summer. If you have any material we can use, please let us have it. The more variety we have the better, especially any international visits or projects.

Please pray for our endeavours. I feel sure the Spirit is working with us or we would never have got this far. May it strengthen the good thing thus begun and long may we work for God's Kingdom in the wills of men.

Chris Williams

WHY TOC H?

A Practical Solution for Membership by *Jacqui Lane*.

The 'Yeti' Goes National

At last year's Central Council a group of younger Toc H members got together for an under-30s forum. This title caused some consternation with Councillors because they felt excluded, and there was a feeling about that Toc H seems to be concerned with a Youth/Age preoccupation.

However, there was a purpose in limiting the age and numbers for the meeting. We at the forum were a group of young people who are proud to belong to Toc H, feeling that we are inheriting an organisation that is both fun and worthwhile. Obviously the future of Toc H lies with us and it is an onerous responsibility. Our parents and grandparents gave us a charity of which to be proud. It is down to us to ensure that our own grandchildren still have a Movement to inherit.

Wanting to do something to draw attention to Toc H, we originally planned a National Youth Weekend, but at a later meeting in January, in a freezing cold Edgbaston Hut, nine articulate enthusiasts argued that we should broaden our appeal. We decided to hold a national weekend which would be open to all expressions of Toc H under the title of 'The Yeti Goes National'. At that meeting were two members of Bridlington TAG Group, Richard Newby and Stephen White, who had held several successful fundraising events using a dramatically eye-catching Yeti costume.



We thought the costume would be an attraction for young people since it arouses curiosity and amusement. Other people

could dress up in assorted fancy dress and chase the Yeti around Birmingham's Bull Ring in the name of Toc H! Birmingham was chosen as the venue because of its central geographical location. This, however, is by no means the entire focus of the weekend.

We want to bring together 75 people whose knowledge of Toc H is limited, tell them about the many things that Toc H does, and so encourage them to get involved in Toc H at grass roots level. There will be display stands and we will ask each region to provide a publicity stand. This is an appeal to all regions to pull out all the stops and provide a display for us to use in the Bull Ring on 4-6 September. We want colourful and imaginative displays. This is your chance to give Toc H a boost. The editor of *Point three* will provide a prize for the best display, which will include a write-up in the magazine.

What else will the weekend hold? There will be a mass busking session in the Bull Ring and a Wishing Well, together with Toc H balloons for children. A barn dance and 'New' games (i.e. non-competitive, including parachute games) are scheduled for Friday evening. Saturday evening will include a live rock band and barbeque at The Windmill House, Alvechurch. On Sunday morning there will be a time set aside for reflections and a discussion of the weekend's achievements, which involve Finding out about Toc H, Fundraising, Fun and Friendship.

Toc H was founded to combat the prejudices which separate people and to help people find their own convictions. We will be considering both personal prejudices and those prevalent in society. We hope that these discussions will point Toc H in new directions and stimulate ideas from volunteers about how and where we should work in the future.

Central Council isn't always famous for producing constructive results! We think that we have achieved quite a positive outcome from one short meeting last year. We hope it will be worth the sparks flying around about 'Youthism'!

This will be a national weekend, with organisers from all over the country. More important, it will be a non-staff-led weekend. We are targetting people who are actively involved in Toc H, not those who consider membership as merely a signed piece of paper. It's time Toc H members got back out there into the streets where there is action. This was the Movement we inherited from our forebears, but there is a distinct absence of energy around in recent times.

None of the nine instigators - Jacqui Lane, Matthew Plumridge, Anne Puddicombe, Tim Beckett, Rob Dixon, Lesley Voss, Stephen White, Richard Newby and Simon Cottingham - are members of Toc H staff, although Simon Cottingham has since joined their ranks. While we appreciate staff help and support, you can't expect dramatic results from a few members of staff. We think it is up to the membership to put a bit of kick back into the Movement and get it into the 21st Century.

Book the weekend in to your diary and get out the photographs and captions for your display. The Publicity Department at Wendover can help with advice, but it is your presence and enthusiasm that are most required. If you have another engagement that weekend - such as the CEC meeting or a wedding - perhaps you would like to help by sending a much-needed donation. For an application form for the weekend, requests for information, or to send donations, please apply to Lesley Voss, c/o 38 Newark Street, London E1. Cheques should be made payable to Toc H N.W.T. (This stands for National Weekend Team.)

BANGLADESH - A CHALLENGE TO US ALL

by Ken Prideaux-Brune

Peter East went to Bangladesh earlier this year to visit the Khasdobir Youth Action Group (KYAG), which he helped to found. Ken Prideaux-Brune spoke to him on his return and as a result paints this up-to-date picture of the Toc H- sponsored project.

Happy is 15. She stands on the earth floor of her bamboo hut telling Peter, in a matter-of-fact kind of way, that with her father's death she is now responsible for earning the money to feed her mother and her six small brothers and sisters. That's the way life is. A loan from KYAG, to buy a sewing machine, may just give her a chance of earning what they need.

A smiling little boy, who comes each day to play with Peter, takes him by the hand and leads him to his home - a kind of rough, lean-to shed, made out of old bits of plastic sheeting. The boy's parents have fevers and lie curled on sacks on the mud floor. They have no furniture at all and their only possessions appear to be three saucepans. Yet the boy doesn't complain. He just wants to let Peter know that his parents are ill.



Two little snapshots that show us what poverty means for the very poorest in Bangladesh; and show us, as well, something of the courage and dignity of the people. Stories such as these are the background to the work of KYAG. That work can be summarised under three main headings - education, economic development, and health and welfare.

Education

The Schools under the Sky, preparing children from poor and illiterate families for entrance to primary school, remain at the centre of the project's work. There are now nine schools with a total of 1100 children. Last year 400 children went forward to the government primary school and another 100 went to the madrassa, the religious primary school.

KYAG takes a continuing interest in their education. The first few students have started college with support from KYAG. Many more (114 this year) are being helped through high school which, unlike the primary school, is not free. The costs met by KYAG amount to about £15 a year for each student - nothing to us, but a sum that for many of the parents represents three months' earnings.

There are four adult literacy classes, with a total of 80 students. These classes are carefully designed to do much more than teach people to read and write. Students also learn



about hygiene and nutrition and are warned of the depredations of village moneylenders. Some 500 people have completed this course since it was introduced four years ago.

KYAG's sewing training centre has been run for several years. Another 30 women, most of them widows or the daughters of widows, all of them, like Happy, the sole breadwinner for their families, are doing the one-year course this year. In a culture in which most women can't go out to work, skills which can be used to earn money at home are essential.

Economic Development

Some of the women who have completed the sewing course have received loans from KYAG to enable them to buy sewing machines and are now doing contract work for local clothing factories. Peter is convinced that KYAG needs to do more to secure contracts for these women. He has suggested asking local schools for contracts to make school uniforms and he has floated the idea of setting up a young man in the village with a stall at the street market in Sylhet town. The women would get a better price that way than by selling to the shops, and the young man would be helped to become economically independent.

Over the past couple of years the revolving loan fund has become an important part of KYAG's programme. A total of 32 loans have been made so far. Apart from buying sewing machines these loans have set someone up in a small business selling grains and vegetables, another person has been able to make and market handicrafts, another to build a country boat to carry goods and passengers. A man called Meenah has set up a welding workshop, where he will be making such things as window grills, and as part of the deal he has agreed to take on two young trainees. Perhaps the most remarkable thing about this loan fund is that none of the people who have received loans have fallen behind with their repayments. Not one. At Peter's suggestion loans will in future be limited to about £70, making it possible to reduce the repayment period to about 12 months and so to increase the number of people benefiting.



An even more recent innovation is the savings scheme, through which people can build up a small cushion to cope with illness or other unexpected expenditure. Most people save just a taka a day (about 1 and a half pence), the most they can afford, but over months a significant sum is built up, and currently earns 13% interest at the bank. There are at present 26 savings groups, with a total membership of 280 and total assets of just over £900.

Health and Welfare

In a country where so many survive at no more than a bare subsistence level there is continual need for small cash grants that can literally make the difference between life and death. In particular KYAG has always tried to help widows who, through age or infirmity, have no chance of ever supporting themselves except by begging. It is intended to raise these regular payments from £5 to £7 a month (yes, I do mean month).

And repairing houses damaged by flood, or simply suffering from natural decay, is another constant need. Last year KYAG supplied materials to rebuild 190 houses and to make major repairs to another 150.

But KYAG dreams of the day when such emergency help may no longer be needed and has launched a number of new programmes which will improve the general level of health in the project area. There are regular monthly clinics, funded by UNICEF and attended by an average of 50 people each time. Some of the women who are active in KYAG visit their neighbours to urge them to bring their children for immunisation - this visiting programme is itself an indication of how these women have grown in self-confidence. A great many people in the area suffer from goitre, a complaint that can be simply and cheaply treated with iodised salt. KYAG, in partnership with a local doctor, is now developing a programme to supply the iodised salt and is hoping eventually to make goitre a thing of the past.

Pure water and proper sanitation are essential to health. In the past year UNICEF has supplied 16 tube wells. KYAG is responsible for meeting the costs of boring the well (which I now understand to be, on average, £17 per well, not £80 as I stated in my article in the *March Point three*). UNICEF require that each well be sited so that a minimum

of 100 people can get water from it. In fact, such is the overcrowding in those parts of the area in which these 16 wells have been placed, that no less than 3,000 people are now, for the first time, getting pure water. KYAG anticipates receiving a further 15 tube wells this year. It is also planning, as a pilot scheme, to supply 20 hygienic latrines at a cost of about £14 each.



What of the future?

If people like Happy, the 15-year-old family breadwinner, or the smiling boy whose family's total possessions amount to three saucepans, are to have any hope of a future, if the people of Khasdobir are to grow in the kind of self-confidence which will enable them to improve the quality of life for themselves and their children, it is essential that KYAG, and our support for it, continue.

Maintaining our support won't be easy. Last year we were able to send KYAG £24,000 - £10,000 from the Overseas Development Administration and £14,000 raised by Toc H and the Friends of Khasdobir. We raised £4,000 over the budgeted figure as a result of special contributions at the time of the cyclone disaster. But the support of ODA is only guaranteed for another two years. If the ODA's support is not renewed, and we have been told it probably won't be, we shall have to find another £10,000 from somewhere just to maintain the project at its present level of expenditure. If we fail, KYAG will have no choice but to cut back its activities. That's the measure of the challenge which faces us over the next two years. The vision of Peter East, and our support, has enabled the people of Khasdobir to create a quite remarkable project. Surely, somehow, we'll find a way of helping them to ensure that it continues.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

by John Mitchell

The Background

There has been growing talk in Toc H of the need for 'Strategic Planning' and for a 'Long-Term Strategic Plan'. The Central Executive Committee has now set up a Strategic Planning Group, which has already started its work. What is involved? What does the Group hope to accomplish?

What has happened so far

Put simply, strategic planning means deciding where one wants to go and how to get there. In 1989 Toc H dealt with the first part of this task when the CEC engaged in an extensive consultation with the members in a now famous 'Green Paper'. Having digested the many replies, CEC then brought to Central Council its proposals for its future focus. Council passed this in the following words:

In today's society, which is disabled by division, mistrust and doubt, Toc H will provide opportunities for people to meet who would not otherwise do so, to develop fellowship, to work together and to discover a faith to live by.

Since then much has happened to realise this goal. Staff have been restructured to work as teams in small target areas (and not without some personal cost). They now have specific targets, which include increasing the membership and promoting all our 'methods' (which at present are Branches and Groups, Projects, Friendship Circles and CAMEOS). The newly appointed Membership Officer at HQ underlines our concern to get more members. The new Branch and Group sub-Committee of the CEC re-emphasises the value of the local unit.

What is still to be done?

There are many further steps necessary to turn the focus into practical results.

FIRST, we need to have a good look at Toc H today - our strengths, weaknesses and resources. It is also vital to take a hard look at the opportunities and challenges in society. In recent meetings the Strategic Planning Group has been doing exactly this.

SECOND, we must decide what Toc H should look like in, say, five years' time. The Strategic Planning Group reported on its vision of the future to the April CEC. At the end of this article are the main ideas that the CEC now feels should be in this so-called 'vision statement'. These points, or an amended version of them, will be out before Central Council in the autumn, but comments on them now will be welcome, and may in fact indicate necessary changes. The points are NOT fixed or final.



THIRD, short-term targets need to be agreed which will be stepping stones on the way to achieving the 'vision'. We must take decisions on how to monitor progress, how to find the necessary money, how to use it...and many other related questions.

If any reader wants to write in with their thoughts EITHER about the 'vision statement' itself, OR more generally with thoughts on the issue of Toc H's forward planning - they are welcome to do so. They will also be welcome to write in later in the year when more of the CEC's thinking on these subjects will have been published. Please write to Stewart Casimir, the Executive Secretary, who will act as a clearing house for any comments.

The contents of a 'vision statement'

The CEC has identified certain elements which it feels should be present in the future. Here, in my own words, are the main areas.

Toc H, in the future,

a) Will be operating its 'methods' so well that they make some real impact on growing numbers of people and on the divisions in society which separate people. We want MORE of all our methods, and BETTER, so that through them more people are brought together across the barriers.

In emphasising this aspect of Toc H, the CEC is directly in line with the focus. Some readers will also recall that, during 1989, when the CEC issued its Green Paper about the future direction of Toc H, there was a huge majority in favour of reconciliation as the main role for Toc H.

b) Must remain committed not only to its 'methods' but equally to the personal and spiritual growth of the individual member.

This is in line with the Statement of Re-Affirmation endorsed by Council in 1989 which spoke of the 'journey inwards' as 'a discovery of meaning, a test of belief, and an exploration of spirituality with an openness to the Christian way'.

c) Will still be a membership Movement, with a growing number of members. People will be brought into membership on an 'individual' committed basis and not by any sort of mass recruitment.

d) Will have members who see themselves as members of one national Movement. They will be encouraged to work out their commitment BOTH in local branches, groups and Circles AND in shorter-term activities like Projects and CAMEOS.

e) Will be getting some real national publicity - and that will be a lot easier if we accomplish a) above.

f) Will, as early as 1997, have become more skilled in working with 'mixture' - i.e. groups of people who are different, divided, and may be in conflict. It will be generally known for its skill in this field. People and organisations will be seeking its advice and help, and it will respond to those requests.

g) Will, as early as 1997, have its finances in such order that it will no longer depend on 'dipping into reserves' to fund its work.

POSTSCRIPT

There is always a balance to be struck between autocratic decision-making by the leadership of Toc H and its opposite; endless consultations which take years and years. Any movement that doesn't listen to its members views will go badly wrong, but at the same time those elected to lead Toc H must sometimes stick their necks out and take a lead. I was amused in 1989 when, after replies to the Green Paper came in, CEC was castigated by some for not consulting enough, and by others for failing to 'get on with it'! You can't please everyone!

I hope that, when we come to Council, we will have a plan, or the first stages of a plan, which will really get Toc H moving and which Council will warmly endorse. Opinions expressed in response to this article will by then have been analysed and presented to CEC, and if there is real weight behind them, I am sure CEC will have taken careful note. If, having done so, CEC decides not to change its proposals, that may be an act of brave leadership. Time will tell! ■

Editor:

The series, Toc H 2000, is intended to give a membership perspective of the future of Toc H.

Andrew Curran, the son of Jim Curran, a member of Barkingside Branch, recently talked to the Branch about his trip to Romania.

We first heard of the plight of the orphans from a close friend, Jean, who was working voluntarily at the orphanage in Vaslui. She described how dirty the building was, how difficult the people were, how short supplies were.

She and the other volunteers were attempting to train the staff and educate them and the children in the concept of 'play'.

David, one of her sons, had decided to take time off from work to see his mother. After a short conversation, we concluded that it would be better to hire a vehicle, raise some money and take supplies for the children. These were to include educational toys, medicines, potties, nappies and clothing.

We had already loaded the van when we received a telephone call from Romania Disaster Aid. A dam had burst near our destination. Could we also take clothes and blankets? After a few phone calls to charity shops, we collected a dozen bags of such items and repacked our load.

The journey across Europe lasted four days and was tiring but almost trouble free. A demand for official papers at one border was quickly satisfied by showing Toc H notepaper with Her Majesty's name on it.

The town of Vaslui was dirty with earthquake-damaged

drains and buildings. There was food in the shops but the people could not afford to buy it. Farmers who had been moved into town blocks, continued to grow grapes and keep chickens.

We visited the orphanage and saw some of the more able-bodied children. Each child wanted to be picked up and held.

They suffered from a variety of illnesses: cataracts, malnutrition, schizophrenia, head-banging and incessant screaming. Life for these poor mites is terrible: Awake at 7 am and on the potty, necessary or not. Back to bed. Up for dinner at 12.30. Back to bed at 4 pm.

Is this a life?

Voluntary workers ask for toys, detergents and children's medication. The resident staff at the orphanage seem indifferent to the children and are there just for a job. They lack the training we would expect our own nurses to have. In June a team of professional nurses are intending to train and educate the staff, and I pray that the results of their work will be evident after a period of time.

A man who lives in Hampshire organises regular trips taking aid to orphanages and schools throughout Romania. I would like to quote what he said on his last visit to Vaslui:

For us Vaslui was the worst place on earth. The orphanage a smelly place, the staff unhelpful. We left wondering why we had bothered. We felt they did not really want the gifts and so asked for them to be passed on to the local school.

We are planning another trip at the end of May. British workers will be there when we arrive and we hope they will be able to supervise the distribution of the toys and medicines. ■

BRANCH NEWS



Lilian Cook (centre, front row) with other members of Llandrindod Wells Joint Branch.

Sydney Jones sent the following report:

'Lilian Cook is 87 and one of the oldest members of Llandrindod Wells Joint Branch. In December last year Lilian fulfilled two longstanding ambitions - to fly in Concorde and to see the Pyramids. With her daughter-in-law Doris, she boarded Concorde at Heathrow and three and a half hours later arrived in Cairo. They then travelled to Luxor and visited many of the wonders of ancient Egypt during the week.

Again accompanied by Doris and other Llandrindod residents, Lilian travelled by coach to spend Christmas in Zakopane in Poland. They visited Krakow to see the churches, palaces and markets and went to Auschwitz, now enshrined as a place of pilgrimage.

Since her return home Lilian has given two interesting talks to the branch, illustrated by colour slides, about her journeys.

North Wales and North West Region Newsletter

If you are planning a concert, hymn sing or any other fundraising or publicity event involving music, why not bear in mind that 28 June has been declared National Music Day - this could help provide valuable publicity for your event. For further information write to National Music Day, PO Box 2BZ, London W1A 2BZ, enclosing a large SAE.

Regional Zimbabwe Appeal

Cyril Carrier, Regional Chairman, writes: 'It is good to be able to confirm the arrival of the minibus in Zimbabwe and to report that we have now reached the halfway mark of £2,500, with the assurance that more is on the way'.

Northants District held its annual get-together, a purely social occasion, on 2 April. Seventy members attended. All branches offered ten minutes of entertainment, resulting in everyone making fools of themselves. There was a rendering of 'Old Uncle Tom Cobly', a skit on branch life, a keep fit display, a quiz which made everyone talk to each other, an Easter bonnet parade and finally a good sing-along.

Members of Sandown/Shanklin Branch held an evening devoted to members' hobbies and interests, ranging from stamp collecting, steam trains, embroidery of church kneelers to wine-making and watercolours. Chairman Don Webster, whose greatest love was football, said that he had been a football referee for over 40 years. Bet Cole always produces poems to commemorate holiday visits and outings and she read the following verses:

*Toc H, to me means friends & fun,
Companionship, a job well done,
A lamp, with light inspiring all
To think of those beyond recall.
Whose sacrifice was made that we
Might live in peace, forever free.*

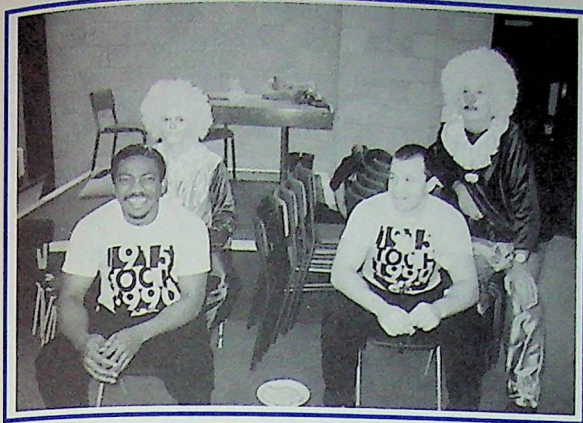
*Toc H, to me means cups of tea,
Discussions, Outings, warmth, Point 3,
A reaching out, a helping hand
A power for good in many a land.*

*It's Tubby Clayton, Talbot House,
Jobs gladly done without a grouse,
It's Sandown/Shanklin Branch, my friends
Whose sharing care all else transcends.*

Project Leaders Training Weekend

The editor attended a Project Leadership Training Weekend at Cuddesdon House in April. The weekend was organised by Southern Region and run by Development Officer Alex Fox (front row centre, next to Ruth Boyd) and former LTV Alison Andrieux (second left, back row). It was a most stimulating and enjoyable piece of training and very gratifying to have firsthand experience of the real Toc H values put into practice. Development Officer Adrian Dudman (centre, back row) attended the course on the Sunday and spoke about the Fourth Point. He took Light by popular request - it was a very memorable experience.





The **Channings Wood Group** had a show and a party for children from three local special schools on 14 April. The event was held in the prison, but the participants were joined by Alan Austin from Torquay, a magician. The entertainment started with songs by the two clowns Dennis and Andy, accompanied by Jim on the guitar. Alan held the children spellbound with an amazing display of magic. The clowns returned, this time accompanied by Simon, with another little medley. The show ended with two more of the lads doing a slapstick routine. The kids loved it. The food was provided by the prison who always do us proud, though jelly may not have been the best of choices as the children were now well into slapstick!



The Mini-Handi Dance at Cell Barnes Hospital, Herts on 12th April.

WINANT CLAYTON VOLUNTEERS

In today's society, which is disabled by division, mistrust and doubt, Toc H will provide opportunities for people to meet who would not otherwise do so, to develop friendship, to work together, and to discover a faith to live by.

This is the 'Focus for the Future' Resolution passed at the 1989 Toc H Central Council, and although the Winant Clayton Volunteers are now an independent charity in their own right, these words still ring very true for us today.

Consider the briefing weekend for the 1992 Claytons. Where else would you find a Scottish banker, a psychologist, a Cambridge graduate, a nurse, a female rugby player and 15 other volunteers all sleeping in one house with only six sleeping bags? This was not how we'd planned the weekend, but fate had altered our plans with a bang!

On Friday evening, 10 April, our briefing weekend was just three hours old, all the volunteers had arrived safely at the St Botolph's Crypt Centre and we were just getting to know each other when...

B A N G !!

...the crypt shook and all lights went out. An IRA car bomb had detonated a few hundred yards from the church. The *division* in today's society had left three people dead and many more injured. The qualified first-aiders in our midst rushed to see if they could be of any assistance, while the rest of us were evacuated by the police.

We expected to be able to return to the crypt within a few hours, so it came as a shock when we learned it would be dawn at the earliest before we could go back. We needed accommodation for 20 volunteers who had left their belongings in the crypt. And so it came to pass that the residents of Newark Street were invaded late on Friday night by a bedraggled bunch of Clayton volunteers.

Nathan and the other residents took us in their stride, searching the house for quilts, blankets and sleeping bags, before retiring to their comfortable beds and leaving us with the task of dividing six sleeping bags between the 20 Claytons. We survived with just one or two stiff necks, but we could have strangled Charlotte and Ian (our co-ordinator and chairman, respectively) when they walked in bright and fresh after sleeping at home in soft, warm, comfortable beds.

The rest of our weekend was relocated to Newark Street and went according to plan, but I think that, having coped with the adversity of Friday night, our group of Clayton volunteers are much better prepared for life in New York.

Look out America, here they come!

Nick Howden ■



On Saturday 11 April **Cleveland District** had a Refuse and Reflection Day, fitting in with National Spring Clean Week organised by the Tidy Britain Group. Twenty-three people, including members, project volunteers, Friendship Circle members and Webb House participants, came together for a couple of hours to remove rubbish from the streets of Middlesbrough and managed to collect 35 bags. The Revd David Mayhew had briefed us to reflect on how we should deal with the personal rubbish in our lives, relating this to the theme of Holy Week and Jesus' dealing with our rubbish. After lunch a talk by Audrey Smith demonstrated her creative talents with things we would throw out. We then spent time working together on creating works of art ourselves out of rubbish. A busy day with a good balance of activity and reflection. A repeat is planned for next spring!

The Editor, *Panel 3*,
Torch Heliocentrics,
1 Popper Circle,
Wendover, Australia,
Rocks, 4022 05

The dream of April's editorial is one that a number of us have had for a long time. It will come true once we get back on course. The first requirement is leadership with vision - without vision the people perish. Once, the highlight of the Central Council weekend was a visiting speaker or preacher from outside the Movement. Unfortunately, for many years now we have been going home with little message of hope but rather just a memory of petty age/youth confrontation and motions passed to ensure more and more bureaucracy.

I have heard so many good comments about *Point three* during the last 12 months or so, and certainly it has repeatedly presented a positive way of thinking. I hope it will continue to provide such good reading.

Nora Bloxham

It's Our Dream Too!

Opening April's *Point three* the first thing that caught my eye was the editorial, 'I have a dream'. Reading the article through I realised what inspiring words were contained in it. Need this be just a dream? Could not much of this be made to come true? It might take longer than 1993 but I firmly believe that much of this dream could become reality. Despite all we hear and read of loss of members, closing branches, etc., it is my firm belief that the downward trend has been halted and that Toc H is already rising again.

Whatever our age (and I am no spring chicken), we must work together as a united whole in the common good. Each branch must seek to play an even bigger part in local affairs keeping in close touch with the local council and with other organisations. We must not be afraid to speak out for what we know is right. We must make Toc H a force to be reckoned with so that people will say, 'This is an organisation really working on our behalf, we can trust Toc H'.

If all of us, not only in the branches but in our own personal lives, put others first and seek to spread the message of Toc H, then this dream can come true, and the human race will indeed love widely, build bravely.

Harry Mackellow

Chairman, Tunbridge Wells East Branch

May I clarify a couple of points raised by Larry Holt-Kentwell and Neal Terry in their letters 'A World Wide Movement' and 'Friendship Circles and Contracts' in April's *Point three*?

Larry's first. Although we still run the service clubs in Germany, we have for the past two years been encouraging and establishing links with both the German community and with the old DDR, Russia and Hungary. Last year saw volunteers from Dresden, Rostock and Budapest and this year we hope to enjoy their company again together with

some Russians from the community in Potsdam. These are our first tentative steps towards spreading Toc H into a sorely needed area and, through our projects, we hope to be able to instil the Four Points of the Compass, so that those attending from the old Eastern bloc will take the message on and nurture Toc H in this new and exciting area.

We feel privileged to be able to be in the right place at the right time to grasp the opportunity and will continue to move toward a greater Toc H. Likewise our work with our local German neighbours continues, and our first four German members joined in March. We shall continue to build bravely.

Neil's letter mentioned contracts with BAOR. There is no contract with BAOR but a charter with the MOD, which is a mutually agreed set of guidelines for all CVWW (Council for Voluntary Welfare Work) organisations and which encompasses all their activities worldwide. There are no contractual obligations in it, in the sense that is currently involving Webb House. All organisations in CVWW contribute to the content of the charter and it is occasionally amended to take account of changing circumstances.

Malcolm Lowe,
Field Officer, Toc H in Germany

Membership Deadline

I am not a member of Toc H, but look forward to reading *Point three* and share the concern over the declining membership of your Movement, which I have respected since my Scouting days in the 1920s.

Would it help if your tenets or objectives were stated more succinctly? It seems to me, although I write with some diffidence, that the Four Points defined in your magazine, 'To love widely, to build bravely, to think fairly, to witness humbly' are difficult to put over if one seeks to fire the interest of an enquirer. Might the Four Points be condensed, for example, along the following lines? The definitions are from my dictionary:

- 1) Friendship. Attachment from mutual esteem.
- 2) Service. A good turn, good offices, benefit to another.
- 3) Open-mindedness. Free from prejudice. Ready to receive and consider new ideas.
- 4) Spirituality. Habitually or naturally, looking to things of the spirit.

Stewart Casimirequired, in effect, whether non-Christians can be admitted to membership, and opinion has been in the affirmative. If so, should not the words 'through Jesus Christ our Lord' be omitted from the Toc H prayer? As I understand it, Tubby did not require members to be Christians, but (genuinely) to be willing to test the Christian way by trying it. Would this apply to devout Muslims, Jews, Hindus, etc, who seek membership? Could one become your President?

It might be interesting to have the history of Toc H, the Four Points, and explanations, in a booklet which would be presented to (and hopefully treasured by) initiates - the more so, if signed by Branch members?

Finally, may I express the hope that Toc H will nail its colours to the mast and continue to demonstrate the precept 'Love thy neighbour' - which swings your compass full circle?

Leslie Naylor
Andover

ANIMAL ALLSORTS



How would you like to have a personal oil painting of your family pet or your family? Or maybe a local landscape or your own house? All you need to do is provide a colour photograph and a work of art will speedily return!

Further details from: Yvette Braddock (South Staffs and Wulfrun District Branch), Dimminsdales, 5 Bilston Road, Willenhall, West Midlands, WV13 2JT Tel: 0902 605348.

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE CANNOCK CHASE NATURE TRAILS FOR THE DISABLED

Welcome to 17 New Members

The following new members were registered during April/May

Darryl R Stearman (Barton on Humber J)
Alan J Treherne (Broadway M)
Mrs Winifred Pickett (Crediton W)
Andrew J Wright (Crewe J)
Ms Jane Bridgeman, Mrs Lynda Rothwell, Elsie Thomas (German District Branch)
Dr John B Clarke (Goring by Sea M)
Mrs Elsie Foy, Mrs Irene Riley (Leigh J)
Mrs Doris Hughes (Newcastle (Staffs)J)
Anja E Füller, Bernhard Füller, Gertrud Füller, Matthias Füller (Paderborn (J) Group)
Miss Lucy A Jefford (Paris J)
David J Bonstow (Totnes (J) Group)

Deaths

We regret to announce the death of the following members:
In January Gwendoline Frost (Plympton)

In February Col E H Apps (S E Hants District)

In March
Miriam Edwards (London District Branch)
Phyllis M Gibbins (Anstey), Lynn Gunning (Central Branch)
Ernest J C Jones (Somerton), Thomas R Houghton (Folkestone)
Bessie C Keys (Paddock), Lynwood Williams (Buckley)

In April
Nan Doidge (Cardiff), Phyllis D Dredge (Watford)
George Jager (Central Branch), Audrey E Whitfield (Kendal)

Not previously recorded
Helen Beaver (Paris), Mildred D Capon (Hartley Wintney)
Sam Gaffney (Taunton), Florence Klein (Paris)
Muriel Lister (Leeds & Craven District)
Evelyn Rose (Burraton), Agnes L Speed (Milford-on-Sea)

SPECIAL TRIBUTES

Audrey Whitfield (nee Pethebridge), who died on 27 April, was known affectionately throughout Toc H for over 60 years simply as 'Peth'. No one in her Region was better known and loved or will be more greatly missed. She joined the Women's Association Branch at Wallasey in 1930 and joined the staff in 1937. She laboured ceaselessly on behalf of Toc H, not only in her own North West Region but wherever she was called to serve. On retirement from the staff in 1973 she joined Kendal Branch and became Branch secretary and later District secretary, as well as serving as Hon Staff on countless occasions. In 1974 she took over the Toc H Birthday Scheme and it is largely due to her charm, capacity for friendship and tireless letterwriting that the income from this has more than trebled. Peth had many personal tragedies in her life, but they never made her bitter nor lessened her faith and indeed they only strengthened her belief in Toc H and her efforts for it. A devoted friend and vivacious companion, her charm, beautiful voice and unfailing loyalty to the things she believed in will be long remembered.

At Peth's funeral service on 5 May at St Paul's Church, Grangeover Sands, her daughter Andrea requested that the collection monies be donated to the Birthday Scheme, which is now managed by Cyril Carrier.

Somerton Branch has lost a loyal member with the death in March of Ernie Jones. He was a dedicated jobmaster for many years. He organised a waste paper collection and over the years raised a large amount of money for Toc H funds.

ERJ

Watford Branch sadly report the death of Phyllis Dredge, who passed away peacefully on 24 April after suffering ill health for some time. A member of Toc H since 1948, she always took a lively interest in the branch and the Movement generally. Her friendship will be greatly missed by us all.

NCW

JFP

FUNDS FOR CAMEOS

The CEC has set up a Cameo Development Group to encourage and oversee the growth of Cameos. It has a small sum of 'seedcorn' money which it can allocate (up to a maximum of £300 to any one Cameo) to encourage new Cameos. Any person wishing to know more about its availability, and the conditions necessary for the grant to be made, should write to the Director at HQ.

John Mitchell, Toc H HQ, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Bucks HP22 6BT.

The Surrey & Sussex Development Group cordially invite all past and present members and project volunteers of Toc H in Surrey to a

Family Reunion Day

to be held on Saturday 15th August from 2-6pm in Old Woking. The purpose of the day is purely for people to meet up with friends from the past who have worked and contributed to Toc H in Surrey.

If you would like to receive an invitation or further information about the day, please write to M J Plumridge, 2, Winterhill Way, Burpham, Guildford, Surrey GU4 7JX.

LEEDS DISTRICT TOC H

BAND CONCERT

by the
YORKSHIRE EVENING POST BAND

Saturday 19 September 1992 at 7.30 pm

in Ossett Town Hall

Tickets: £3.00 and £2.50 (with 50p concessions) available shortly.

Please contact: Ken or Cynthia Quayle
39 Longfield Drive
Rodley
Leeds 13
Tel: 0532 556668

Prideaux House

The Community of Reconciliation
and Fellowship



Prideaux House is not an hotel, nor a boarding house, nor a hostel. It is the home of a community of people who have found their faith in God very real and relevant.

Our aim is to offer good quality accommodation in a homely atmosphere for that short break in London, near the West End, theatres, shops, museums and concerts. Ideally suited for persons attending conferences, courses, business meetings, interviews, and for those in need of relaxation. Perfect for groups or persons wanting peace and quiet.

Accommodation is offered in The Stanley Coulson Wing of our Community House and Centre in ten single (only) rooms, and all proceeds support our work in Hackney.

Each bedroom has a very high standard of furnishing with own wash-basin. There are good shower facilities, lounges, TV Room, small garden and the Community Chapel. Wholesome cooking is the norm. Sadly, accommodation is not suitable for children, smokers and persons on specific orthodox diets.

For further information contact:

The Rev Gualter R de Mello, Prideaux House, Ecumenical
Interfaith Centre, 10 Church Crescent, London E9 7DL.
Telephone: 081-986 6000

POINT THREE FOR THE BLIND

The magazine is now available in tape form for readers who are either blind or partially sighted. Several members have already taken advantage of this excellent facility which is only £3, including postage, for 12 months. Write to: Harry C Bailey, 27 Harrowden Road, Wellingborough, Northants NN8 3BG

Christian Singles, friendship contacts,
fellowship groups, social events, nationwide.
Weekend Houseparties. Holidays.

Christian Fellowship Friendship, Dept 23B,
Edenthorpe, Doncaster DN3 2QD

CUDDESDON HOUSE

Leaders: Adrian Dudman and Alan Johnson

THE STILL CENTRE 18 - 20 September

In the middle of busy lives, stillness is difficult to grasp, and creative silence is unfamiliar. During this weekend there will be an opportunity to think about stillness and some periods of silence interspersed with talks and discussion.

A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY 9 - 11 October

A time to pause and reflect together on the nature of spirituality, particularly in Toc H. The programme during the weekend focusses on the Statement of Reaffirmation in which Toc H is described as 'a journey of discovery'.

The cost for each of these events is £25 and includes accommodation and meals from supper on Friday evening to lunch on Sunday. These events are subsidised from central Toc H funds and any contribution over the stated cost will be gratefully received.

To book your place please send a deposit of £10, indicating which event you wish to attend to: Revd J Alan Johnson, Toc H HQ, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Bucks HP22 6BT.

Small Ads

Small advertisements must be received (with remittance) five weeks before publication day, which is the 23rd of the preceding month. The charge is 10p a word (minimum £1) plus VAT, to Point three Magazine. Rates of display advertisements can be obtained from the Editorial Office, Toc H Headquarters, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 6BT.

Hythe, Kent - homely accommodation in member's home. Bed/breakfast and/or evening meal or full board, very reasonable rates. Enquire Nesta Cock, 7 Tournay Close, Lympe, Hythe, Kent CT12 4LL. Tel: 0303 269407